

## EDITORIALS

### RAY LYMAN WILBUR

In selecting Ray Lyman Wilbur President-Elect of the A. M. A., our National Association, in addition to conferring upon Dr. Wilbur the greatest honor within the gift of the physicians of the United States, has honored our State, a great medical school and every physician of California.

Members of the Medical Society of California are greatly pleased with Dr. Wilbur's election, and on their behalf and in their names we congratulate him and pledge him our full co-operation and support in making a striking success of the 1923 meeting of the A. M. A.

Dr. Wilbur's conspicuous services in the cause of better medicine and better public health are reviewed in an editorial in the Journal of the A. M. A. of June 3, 1922.

#### THE 1923 MEETING OF THE A. M. A.

The 1923 meeting of the A. M. A. is to be held in San Francisco, June 25-29.

The privilege and honor of entertaining this the greatest of all medical organizations was won by the earnest endeavors of the San Francisco Convention and Tourist League and of our own delegates who attended the meeting, C. Van Zwahlenburg, Albert Soiland, Victor G. Vecki and E. C. Fleischer, are to be congratulated on their splendid representation of our Society's affairs at the National Convention. They were ably seconded in their efforts by the delegates from other western States, and particularly by the enthusiastic support of J. A. Pettit of Oregon.

As hosts for the A. M. A., California, and the Medical Society in particular, have accepted an important and serious responsibility. With all the agencies interested in the medical welfare of the State working effectively and in harmony, the 1923 meeting can be made a memorable one.

The Council of the State Medical Society will give consideration to the problems involved at its meeting in Los Angeles the first week in September. There will be plenty to do for all who are willing to work. It is not too much to hope for the full co-operation and assistance of our members in preparing and executing plans that will make this the banner meeting of our National Association.

#### OPERATING WITHOUT PERMISSION

Hospitals and physicians throughout the State should learn one lesson at least from the undesirable publicity in which the San Francisco Hospital finds itself involved. There seems to be no question whatsoever but what performing an operation without proper permission from the patient or the person responsible for the patient, in case of a minor, is a violation of the law in California. Physicians and hospitals, whatever their private

opinions may be, should be law-abiding in all of their actions.

The dangers connected with violation of this particular law have been emphasized a number of times in the Journal, in Better Health and wherever medical societies meet.

The League for the Conservation of Public Health, with the approval of the Council of the State Medical Society, has issued a form for permit to operate, which has been reviewed by our attorneys and which complies with the law in every respect. Samples of these forms will be issued to any hospital or physician requesting them.

Any hospital that does not absolutely prohibit any sort of an operation within its walls, or even the giving of an anesthetic preparatory to operation, without a properly worded written permit is pursuing a hazardous course and one that is illegal as well.

#### HOSPITAL CONVENTION

The second annual convention of the hospitals of California will be held under the auspices of the League for the Conservation of Public Health on Tuesday to Friday, September 5 to 8, at the Maryland Hotel in Pasadena.

On Friday, September 8, the Council of the State Medical Society will hold two meetings at the Maryland Hotel. One meeting will be at 10 a. m. and the other at 8 p. m.

On Saturday, September 9, the Council of the State Medical Society will meet with the presidents and secretaries of all County Medical Societies. This meeting will open with a luncheon at the hotel and continue until the program has been disposed of.

These combined meetings will bring together large numbers of persons interested in all phases of medical, hospital and public health betterment. Monday, September 4, and Saturday, September 9, are holidays. Very attractive rates and facilities have been arranged for at the Maryland Hotel, and all persons interested in any phase of hospital work are cordially invited to plan to spend the first week of September at the convention.

The program for the hospital convention is now in course of preparation. It will be carried out along the same general lines that made the convention last year so successful. All physicians, trustees, directors, administrators, nurses, technicians, record secretaries, and other persons interested in hospitals should be present at this meeting and take part in the discussions.

Dr. Charles D. Lockwood, 295 Markham place, Pasadena, is chairman of the committee of arrangements. This committee, the hotels, the Chamber of Commerce and other civic organizations are at work upon plans to make the social and recreational features of the convention attractive.

See the August numbers of the JOURNAL and of Better Health for further publicity.

For reservations, address Mr. H. M. Nickerson, Resident Manager, Hotel Maryland, Pasadena, California.